



AFGHANISTAN REPORT

NO. 40

JULY 1987



**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES
SECTOR F-5/2, P. O. BOX 1173,
ISLAMABAD-PAKISTAN**

**CRISIS AND CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM (CCAT)
AFGHANISTAN**

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JULY 1987**

Chairman . . . Kamal Matinuddin.

Project Coordinators . . . Ijaz S. Gilani
Naseem Rizvi

Associates . . . Najam Abbas
Fazal-ur-Rahman

1. The Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team comprises of leading academicians, strategists, researchers and policy analysts interested in the study of international relations. The members of this team meet periodically in groups; one team is devoted to the study of the Afghan crisis and conflict. In the light of carefully monitored information each group reviews current developments in its respective conflict area, and offers various policy options for consideration. While the Institute of Strategic Studies provides the forum, coordinates research and publishes the findings of the Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team, it does not necessarily share the views expressed by the team members whose participation in this group is in their individual capacity.

2. The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, collation, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all the parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Afghan, Soviet, and other Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Documentation Centre, Afghan Information Centre, the Afghan Islamic Press, and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are aware of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up in the Mujahideen, as present in regular armies.

— Editor



**IJAZ S. GILANI
NASEEM RIZVI**

Edited and Published by Kamal Matinuddin on behalf of the Institute of Strategic Studies vide DM. Islamabad Memo No. 2617/C of 14-7-1985 and despatched under GPO's Registered No. N-1072, Telephones: 824628, 821340, 824658.
Subscription Rates: *Annual* Rs. 120.00 *Single copy* Rs. 10; *Overseas Annual* US \$ 60.00; *Single* US \$ 5.00 including air mail. *Address:* The Institute of Strategic Studies, Sector F-5/2, Islamabad.
Printed by Abdal Ghani Barq at Ferozsons Rawalpindi Ltd., 32 Saddar Road Rawalpindi, Telephones: 62302 — 62366 — 67901 Telex: 54055 BARQ Pk.

ACRONYMS

AAP	=	Agency Afghan Press (Mujahideen).
AAPSO	=	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.
AAWC	=	All Afghanistan's Women Council.
ADBA	=	Agricultural Development Bank of Afghanistan.
ALA	=	Association of Lawyers of Afghanistan.
APC	=	Armoured Personnel Carrier.
CC	=	Central Committee.
CP	=	Communist Party.
DRA	=	Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.
DYOA	=	Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan.
HIS	=	Haqiqat-e-Inqilab-e-Saur ('The Truth of the Saur Revolution'), daily newspaper.
HMV	=	Heavy Military Vehicles.
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune.
IRC	=	International Red Cross.
KHAD	=	State Secret Service.
KNT	=	Kabul New Times.
LOSPA	=	Local Organs of State Power and Administration.
NFF	=	National Fatherland Front.
NVDP	=	Ningarhar Valley Development Project.
PDPA	=	Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.
POA	=	Pioneers Organization of Afghanistan.
PSFO	=	Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.
RC	=	Revolutionary Council.
SAFS	=	Soviet Afghan Friendship Society.
TUA	=	Trade Unions of Afghanistan.
UJA	=	Union of Journalists of Afghanistan.
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNGA	=	United Nations General Assembly.
VFA	=	Voice of Free Afghanistan.
VOA	=	Voice of America.
VOG	=	Voice of Germany.
VOIR	=	Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (reportedly based in Iran).
WDS	=	Western Diplomatic Sources.
WHO	=	World Health Organization.
YPO	=	Young Pioneer's Organization.
'Jehad'	=	To strive, struggle, resist, fight against, as an article of Faith. One of the main tenets of Islam.
'Mujahideen'	=	Those who take part in Jehad against oppression and aggression, as an article of faith.
'Jirga'	=	Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Loi Jirga'	=	National Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Afghanis'	=	Afghan Currency.

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THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



I. — THE FOURTH AFGHAN WAR

1 — SUMMARY PERSPECTIVE (see map Appendix 6)

Mujahideen sources reported 498 incidents in 26 out of 29 provinces of Afghanistan in July 1987. A breakdown of the incidents reported by the Mujahideen sources was:

Mujahideen attacked 119 mobile targets: military convoys; mobile detachments, aircraft and helicopters.

Mujahideen attacked 166 immobile targets; Security Posts; Military camps and cantonment; administrative centres; Ruling Communist party offices/centres/establishments.

68 Soviet-Kabul forces ground operations; mopping missions etc.

145 Soviet-Kabul forces air operations; aerial bombing; punitive strikes; massacres; destruction of crops/farms and other atrocities.

The figures indicate that Soviet-Kabul forces continue to rely more on their air force rather than on the ground forces.

On the other hand, Mujahideen activity shows an inclination to hit fixed locations/targets.

COMPARATIVE DATA WITH PREVIOUS YEARS

Month		Mujahideen Operations	Soviet-Kabul Operations	Total Engagements
July	1987	287	211	498
July	1986	368	77	445
July	1985	121	63	184
July	1984	99	119	218

COMPARATIVE DATA WITH PREVIOUS MONTHS

Month		Mujahideen Operations	Soviet-Kabul Operations	Total Engagements
July	1987	287	211	498
June	1987	193	244	437
May	1987	335	96	431
April	1987	300	198	498
March	1987	339	149	488
February	1987	177	35	212
January	1987	309	133	442

The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad, in the preparation of this part of the monthly report.

The highest combat frequency was reported from Wardak, (after having been quiet for some time), Kabul, Kunar, and Ningarhar.

Sizeable conflict was witnessed in Qandahar, Logar and Parwan.

Province-wise distribution of the conflict reveals increased activity in the eastern and central provinces of Afghanistan.

Kabul media gave notable coverage to bomb blasts in the capital, Kabul.

Mujahideen reported use of gas by the Soviet-Kabul forces that caused eye and skin disorders to the people of some areas in Qandahar provinces.

Airstrikes

The Afghan government and Soviet air forces resorted to air strikes in Wardak, Kabul, Kunar and Qandahar. Beside bombing Mujahideen positions they also inflicted losses to civilian lives and dwellings. A contingent of Kabul troops was also hit when Soviet jets bombarded Mujahideen positions between Paghman and Maidan.

Defections

The rate of Kabul troops defecting to Mujahideen has stepped up during the past two months. Mujahideen sources report sizeable defections took place in Qandahar, Paktiya, Ningarhar, Takhar and Faryab provinces.

Political Targets

Kabul sources reported a number of explosions including in the Education Ministry in Kabul. They said that counter-revolutionaries had attacked leaders meeting in Bamiyan province where party officials were killed.

Radio Kabul stated on July 27, that Ghulam Haider, District Chairman of the National Reconciliation Commission had been killed by extremist elements in Andrab district of Baghlan province. Earlier Mujahideen accepted responsibility for killing a Khad official in Baghlan. Another official was killed when Mujahideen attacked Khad office in Herat city.

Mujahideen attacked 2 Khad agents in Kabul province.

7 PDPA members were killed in Parwan province. Two of them belonged to Khad.

Mujahideen dispersed a "regime officials" meeting in Mohammad Agha district in Logar province.

In Wardak Mujahideen killed 2 Khad officials and set the office of Local Reconciliation Committee on fire.

Inter-Party Differences

Some Mujahideen sources suspected that a blast in the Macro-rarian locality of Kabul city might have been the work of the ruling party dissidents.

A clash within the PDPA cadres took place in Qandahar.

A clash between supporters of Khalq and Parcham factions claimed lives of 3 students at Kabul University. It is reported that the nephew of the Defence Minister Gulabzai was among the casualties.

2 — MAJOR MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS

Wardak

Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul forces dramatically stepped up their activities in June and July in the previously quieter province of Wardak.

Mujahideen attacked an army camp near Zamburak. This camp was established by Soviet-Kabul authorities to check Mujahideen supplies toward northern and northwestern provinces.

In mid-June Mujahideen attacked a number of military facilities in and around Maidan. Soviet-Kabul convoys passing through Wardak on Kabul-Ghazni-Qandahar highway were attacked over and over again.

In another combined operation Mujahideen inflicted severe casualties on Afghan troops in Chak-Wardak.

On June 19, a heavy contingent of Soviet-Kabul troops was sent to Wardak via Paghman. The Soviet-Kabul force attacked to Mujahideen. They also bombarded suspected Mujahideen positions. Soviet jets inflicted heavy losses to the civilian population.

Mujahideen belonging to various organisations put up joint and stiff resistance to the Soviet-Kabul force in Wardak. Both sides suffered losses. 120 civilians were estimated killed and a large number of houses were demolished. 20 civilians hiding in a mill were killed in Ziarat village.

Mujahideen shot down 3 helicopters.

Mujahideen claimed that they frustrated the offensive and the Soviet-Kabul force pulled back on July 9.

Kabul

Mujahideen attacked military camps in Paghman and in the Qargah division. On their part the Soviet-Kabul forces attacked Paghman in a big way on June 15. Here they faced stiff Mujahideen resistance. Mujahideen reported that 2 regiments of Soviet-Kabul troops backed by tanks and aircraft participated in the Paghman operation

which continued for about a week.

Urban guerilla were active in and around Kabul city.

Mujahideen raided a security post 15 km north of Kabul, apprehending 13 militiamen including the incharge of the post.

Mujahideen shelled Khawaja Rawish air terminal inflicting damage to the personnel and installations. Mujahideen captured arms and ammunition during attacks on security posts near Baghai and Garanj, the Kabul-Jalalabad highway, Saroobi and Naghludam. Mujahideen also damaged a bridge on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway. Authorities in Kabul tightened security and it was visible in the number of men, machines and transport recently brought to and around the capital. This has coincided with large-scale fighting in suburbs like Paghman and Sanglakh.

Kunar

Since late June, Mujahideen conducted well-coordinated operations at a number of locations in Kunar province. They attacked Asadabad and Asmar cantonments with medium range missiles and rocket launchers. Military installations and bunkers were hit at these places.

Soviet-Kabul jets retaliated by striking Mujahideen positions. A number of Mujahideen were killed or wounded.

Mujahideen attacked an "Artillery Brigade"; captured 40 militiamen and PDPA members from a military camp in Dara Noor; burnt a depot in Nairabad; captured "trenches" in Watapoor and took up positions of tactical significance on the peripheries of Asmar. Losses were inflicted on Afghan troops at Tanai, Salarbagh and Chawki.

Mujahideen captured 60 militiamen during an attack on Dewagay. A reinforcement contingent despatched from Asadabad was ambushed by Mujahideen.

Air strikes by the Soviet-Kabul forces caused deaths and destruction among the civilian population in Shigal, Dangam, Ganjgal and Marwara areas. A number of houses were demolished.

Radio Kabul and Radio Moscow reported Mujahideen activity in various parts of Kunar during this period.

3 — PROVINCEWISE SURVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimruz (also bordering Iran)

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen ambushed a Soviet-Kabul military

convoy heading towards Khash Rud, a subdivisional headquarter, on July 2, a tank and 3 other vehicles destroyed.

Radio Teheran: In Nimruz province, Muslim Revolutionaries killed and injured 15 enemies and destroyed 4 tanks and military vehicles (News—Urdu: 15 July, 1987).

Hilmand

Mujahideen Sources: 13 June: Mujahideen attack a Soviet supply convoy in Grishik district presumably proceeding towards Arghandab in Qandahar province. Three tanks destroyed.

25 June: Mujahideen AA-gun fire shoots down a helicopter gunship near Qila Bust.

4 July: In a missile attack Mujahideen blast an ammunition depot in Lashkargah, headquarters of Hilmand province.

In another action Mujahideen overran a security post. A tank and an armoured vehicle destroyed. Fifteen Soviet-Kabul soldiers killed against 2 of Mujahideen.

VOIR: In an attack on military centre in Lashkargah city Mujahideen killed all the military personnel posted there. According to another report, the Mujahideen ambushed a military convoy in Karji (ph) area, killing a number of the enemy and destroying 2 tanks. In the course of the operation, 22 government troops were arrested by the Mujahideen (News—Pushto: 1 July, 1987).

Muslim Mujahideen shot down a military helicopter in Hilmand province as a result of which all crew members were killed. Similarly in an ambush on a military convoy, Mujahideen destroyed 15 tanks and 5 vehicles (News—Pushto: 5 July, 1987).

Radio Teheran: The Afghan Mujahideen attacked a Soviet column in Garamser city of Hilmand inflicting heavy losses to the enemy in men and material. Some tanks and armoured vehicles were destroyed. Later, helicopter gunships of Kabul government attacked the strongholds of Mujahideen. Two Mujahideen were killed and 7 wounded (News—Urdu: 13 July, 1987).

Qandahar

Mujahideen Sources: 13 June: Mujahideen destroyed 3 Soviet-Kabul security posts in Baru Darwaza area.

18 June: A Soviet aircraft downed in Qandahar city.

20 June: Over 2,500 Afghan government soldiers join Mujahideen at a place called Worssek in Qandahar province.

24 June: A group of 15 Afghan government soldiers kill their commanding officer in Qandahar city and join the Mujahideen.

(It was reported that over a period of one and a half month ending June, 1987, the Soviet-Kabul troops had suffered about 250 soldiers killed and 800 injured in Qandahar city and its suburbs. They also lost more than 100 vehicles, tanks, and jeeps, besides 13 aircraft/helicopters. About 2,500 Afghan government soldiers joined the Mujahideen during this what seemed to be the longest Soviet-Kabul operation against Mujahideen for several years. The offensive apparently spilled over into July 1987).

1 July: Soviet-Kabul troops operating in Arghandab encircle Mohalajat (inside Qandahar city). Bulldozers demolish houses.

5 July: A Soviet jet shot down in a Qandahar city suburb.

6 July: Mujahideen and regime militia men clash in Dewagal in Tsaudka district. Thirteen militia men killed and 6 captured. Four Mujahideen also killed.

7 July: Mujahideen destroy 2 tanks, a wireless set and an army truck in Deh Bagh area. Eighteen Soviet-Kabul troops killed.

9 July: Mujahideen attack battalion headquarter in Pushtoon Bagh area. This was followed by aerial bombardment of civilian targets by Soviet-Kabul forces.

11 July: Mujahideen attack an army centre in Qandahar city, killing 4 troops including a Soviet officer.

12 July: An AN-12 aircraft was destroyed near Qandahar airport. A number of Russian servicemen on board were believed killed.

18 July: Soviet aircraft drop napalm bombs in Dand and Panjwai areas. Orchards and standing crops destroyed.

20 July: Soviet aircraft dropped chemical (Gas) bombs in the Arghandab suburb of Qandahar city. Twelve villagers show "severe effects". Hundreds of others develop eye and skin disorders.

(In Previous May 1987 too the Soviets had used chemical weapons in Dand and Arghandab localities of Qandahar).

Radio Teheran: The Islamic Republic News Agency reports that as a result of a mine explosion in a military base near Qandahar city ten Soviet-Kabul troops including 2 officers were killed (2 July, 1987).

Clashes are continuing between the Soviet-Kabul forces and Afghan Muslim Revolutionaries in Arghandab area of Qandahar province. So far 250 communist soldiers have been killed and 800 injured. One hundred tanks and armoured and military vehicles of the Soviet-Kabul forces have been destroyed (5 July, 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on the Qandahar airport in the recent past resulting in serious damage to a number of fighter planes and 3 military transport aircraft.... Mujahideen fired 55 rockets towards that airport and also destroyed an ammunition depot (8

July, 1987).

Latest reports received from Afghanistan say that after a fierce clash in southern and northern areas of Qandahar on Thursday last the communist troops were forced to retreat ending their eight week siege of the city. The report says that during the siege of Qandahar city by communist troops about 250 civilians were killed and 600 houses were demolished (News—Urdu: 19 July, 1987).

The bombers of Kabul regime used fire bombs in their intensive attacks against the Muslim Mujahideen in two areas of Qandahar province (26 July, 1987).

Radio Riyadh: Soviet-Kabul troops used most modern missiles on the 25th of last month on Qandahar city. Seventy-six persons were killed during the fighting, including 16 Soviets (3 July, 1987).

VOA: Reports received from Afghanistan say the Communist troops have ended their eight-week long siege around the country's second largest city, Qandahar, and have withdrawn from the area.... This fighting was triggered when about 6,000 Soviet-Kabul troops had stormed Arghandab bridge in the north of the city during the period from May 22 to June 21. Nearly 1,500 Soviet-Kabul troops were either killed or wounded and about 2,000 troops of the Afghan regime defected to Mujahideen ranks. Dozens of Soviet military vehicles were destroyed and the Mujahideen claimed to have shot down 17 Soviet-made helicopters. The Afghan Mujahideen sources say that 130 of their warriors including four top commanders were also killed.

Besides, 250 civilians also lost their lives and about 600 houses were completely destroyed.

It was reported that 74 Soviet troops were killed until their withdrawal on Thursday last.

The Afghanistan based Soviet engineers are reported to have constructed a road around Qandahar. It is meant to facilitate the movement of tanks. For this purpose, hundreds of houses were demolished and their occupants forced to shift to other places (18 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The Bakhtar News Agency reports that a group of armed insurgents headed by one Hikmatullah, who was a notorious killer of innocent people, was killed in a clash. This clash occurred in Qandahar province and all the insurgents were killed (News—Baluchi: 8 July, 1987).

Ghazni

Mujahideen Sources: 12 June: Mujahideen launch a series of attacks on Soviet-Kabul positions in Ghazni province, including Ghazni

Airport. Seventeen soldiers were killed.

14 June: A Soviet convoy moving towards Ghazni from Kabul loses 3 tanks in an ambush near Saidabad.

17 June: Soviet helicopters attack and destroy a Mujahideen jeep near Deh Haji.

19 June: Mujahideen attack a Russian convoy near the provincial headquarters of Ghazni. As a result, 8 oil tankers, 4 tanks, 2 jeeps and one truck were destroyed. Mujahideen shell Ghazni airport with 107 mm guns. One helicopter believed to be destroyed.

23 June: Forty-three Soviet-Kabul troops killed 7 tanks destroyed in an ambush in Noghi village on Kabul-Qandahar highway.

2 July: Two jets knocked down near Ghazni airport.

5 July: Three Soviet-Kabul tanks destroyed during an attack on a military convoy on the Kabul-Qandahar highway "in the region of Narin and Noshki.

11 July: Mujahideen shell the subdivisional town of Khawaja Umari.

12 July: Mujahideen intercept a mobile force near Muqar on Kabul-Qandahar Highway. A tank destroyed by rocket fire.

15 July: Mujahideen fire rockets on an army camp near Qarah Bagh. Thirteen regime soldiers believed killed.

Radio Teheran: The Muslim Afghan Revolutionaries killed 40 soldiers of the invading Soviet and Afghan government troops in Ghazni province. The Muslim Revolutionaries destroyed 7 tanks and armoured vehicles and seized 2 tanks (1 July, 1987).

The Mujahideen attacked a military base of the Soviet-Kabul troops on the Kabul-Qandahar highway in Ghazni province (17 July, 1987).

Zabul

Mujahideen Sources: The Mujahideen brought down two Soviet-built helicopters in Shenkai area of Zabul on July 1. They also killed 31 Kabul soldiers during a counter-attack in the same area. Earlier on June 18, the Mujahideen destroyed 2 tanks and 2 other vehicles in Shila Bagorgan.

Radio Bangladesh: Afghan Mujahideen killed 40 Soviet soldiers in the southeastern province of Zabul last week and shot down two helicopters (10 July, 1987).

VOA: There has been escalation of war in Afghanistan in recent weeks. VOA correspondent John Shultz has sent details of the fierce fighting. Afghan Mujahideen reaching Pakistan border city of Quetta for treatment said that they had killed 31 Soviet commandos in south-

east Afghanistan. Soviet commandos were deployed to block a route of Mujahideen in the mountainous areas in Zabul province near Pakistan border. A Mujahideen group ambushed the commandos as a result of which 31 Soviet commandos were killed. During the ambush the Soviet commando unit called in fresh reinforcements and when helicopters carrying additional troops arrived, the Mujahideen shot down two of them. Mujahideen said that they had seen the burnt bodies and helmets of the commandos and the wreckages of the helicopters. One local commander of the Mujahideen was also killed in the fighting (Radio Report—Urdu: 10 July, 1987).

Paktika

Mujahideen Sources: 14 June: Two Soviet-Kabul APCs destroyed near village Urgoon during a Mujahideen attack.

In a well-organised raid on the provincial headquarters of Sharnai on July 1, the Mujahideen overran a Soviet-Kabul military post. Thirteen government soldiers were killed. The Mujahideen captured: one APC, one R-105 wireless set, some guns and a quantity of ammunition.

Radio Teheran: A Soviet fighter plane which intended to bombard the positions of the Mujahideen near Urgoon in Paktika was shot down by anti-aircraft gun fire (19 July, 1987).

Paktiya

Mujahideen Sources: 15 June: An aircraft knocked down near Gardez.

22 June: Mujahideen attack a security post near Qadar Kali, Tanni District.

26 June: Twenty-one Afghan Army conscripts defect and join the ranks of Mujahideen at their Jihad Wall centre. This followed Mujahideen attacks on security posts in Khost, Sankai, Mani Kandao and Liza areas.

28 June: Mujahideen rockets fired from Tora Chara hit Khost air base and destroy two helicopters.

29 June: Mujahideen attack security posts in Gurburz sub-district. Eleven "enemy supporters" killed.

30 June: Two vehicles of a military convoy proceeding to Khost were hit and destroyed.

4 July: An army vehicle proceeding to one of the Soviet-Kabul security posts was hit and destroyed somewhere "in Paktiya province".

8 July: In a large scale operation Mujahideen overrun 12 Soviet-Kabul security posts. A tank destroyed and an unspecified number of government soldiers were killed and wounded.

7 July: Soviet-built aircraft bombard 'Garbari' village of Bajawar area in Pakhtiya province, resulting in the killing of a woman and two children.

8 July: Mujahideen conduct a bold attack on the 23rd Brigade of Soviet Army stationed in Khost. Several Russians were believed to have been killed or wounded. Several barracks were destroyed or damaged by shelling and rocket firing. The Soviet-Kabul troops also lost 5 tanks.

10 July: Mujahideen attack security post at Naik Mohammad village.

12 July: A Soviet-Kabul oiltanker blown up by landmine planted by Mujahideen (somewhere) near Jehadwal centre.

12 July: Mujahideen fire rockets on Soviet-Kabul army camp near Daraghai, resulting in the destruction of a 'vehicle' and an oil tanker.

12 July: Soviet-Kabul artillery opens up on the 'Jehadwal Front', but Mujahideen suffer no casualties.

14 July: Mujahideen fire rockets on Said Akram, ancestral village of Najibullah. Eight Kabul government troops were killed or injured and a tank damaged.

18 July: Mujahideen attack security posts in Daraghai and Sanakai area, killing and wounding a number of soldiers.

In separate attacks on the same day, Mujahideen wiped out a security post. They also fired rockets on KHAD and Khalq Party offices in Pakhtiya, killing at least 19 'Communists'.

Radio Teheran: Mujahideen shot down another plane of the Kabul regime which was trying to bombard Mujahideen positions in the outskirts of Pakhtiya (19 July, 1987).

The Mujahideen during their operations in Pakhtiya province, killed and wounded a number of Soviet-Kabul troops (27 July, 1987).

VOA: Afghan Resistance sources say they have killed 8 villagers fighting against the Mujahideen and cooperating with the Soviet-installed Afghan government.... The Afghan Islamic Press says that these villagers were hanged in Pakhtiya province. According to the report, another 112 villagers are facing the same charge. The report adds these tribesmen had assisted 2 helicopters bringing weapons from Kabul.

According to the report, evidence against the villagers was heard by a Jirga comprising Ulema, tribal elders and Mujahideen (News—Urdu: 24 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: A group leader connected with the Gulbadin Band was killed and 3 others injured in an encounter with youths of North Waziristan. Reports reaching Bakhtar News Agency say that the youths

attacked the bandits while they were carrying arms to Afghanistan via Waziristan. The report adds that the bandits resisted the attack but were compelled to retreat (News—Pushto: 7 July, 1987).

Some of the Afghan refugees living a hard life in the neighbouring countries have returned to their homes. They are living a peaceful life now in Khost province. Bakhtar News Agency reports that these refugees were 119 in number. They were welcomed by the working class people, their relatives and members of the Peace Committees. They promised to defend their motherland from Afghan insurgents who are mercenaries (8 July, 1987).

KNT: Gardez July 18: Six persons, including children and women, were killed and another 11 injured and residential houses were damaged when the extremists fired surface-to-surface rockets on the Gardez city, violating the ceasefire.

The Nation Reconciliation Commission and the residents of Pakhtiya province strongly condemned the grievous and bestial act committed against national reconciliation (BIA: KNT: 19 July 1987).

Ningarhar

Mujahideen Sources: 15 June: In a series of attacks (culminating 15 June) on Soviet-Kabul security posts at Garu, Arkhy and Dawar Khel of Goshta district the Mujahideen inflicted the following losses:

- (1) 27 tanks hit, destroyed or damaged.
- (2) 9 military vehicles destroyed or damaged.
- (3) One water tanker destroyed.
- (4) 10 Soviet-Kabul security posts destroyed.

19 June: A Soviet reconnaissance plane shot down (somewhere in Ningarhar).

21 June: A helicopter shot down in Dur Bab subdivision.

On June 22 the Mujahideen launched another offensive in Garu. They destroyed 5 security posts and military camps, killing 40 troops. Fifteen Afghan government soldiers were captured, alongwith a quantity of arms and ammunition.

A Soviet-Kabul tank was destroyed at Asman on July 1.

Soviet-Kabul troops brought in reinforcements to the Garu area on July 2 and started shelling Mujahideen positions with BM-21 and BM-27. At the same time their planes bombarded Mujahideen positions, albeit from high altitude presumably from fear of Mujahideen anti-aircraft guns.

On the same day, July 2, Mujahideen hit a Soviet-Kabul military camp in Chapparhar, south of the provincial headquarters of Jalalabad

with medium range missiles. At least 18 government soldiers were killed or wounded.

The Soviets bombarded the rural localities of Chapparhar, killing and maiming several persons and destroying a number of houses.

3/4 July: Mujahideen fired SBRL 107 mm Chawki district and Arty Brigade.

4 July: A tank and 3 military vehicles were destroyed in Garu area where Soviet-Kabul forces had been setting up new security posts to interfere with Mujahideen communications.

7 July: Mujahideen lay land mines on Gooshta-Gaw Road.

8 July: Two tanks were damaged/destroyed by land mines.

9 July: Soviet-Kabul planes bombard Mujahideen positions in Ningarhar. One of the invading copters shot down.

9 July: an APC and a jeep were hit at Nowabad.

10 July: A jet knocked down in Chapparhar. In another operation in the same district 11 'Parchamies' were killed.

12 July: Mujahideen fire rockets on Qala Kareem Khan posts in Chawki district.

Radio Teheran: Mujahideen carried out raids on the Jalalabad airport as a result of which 34 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed or injured, while 10 aircraft standing at the airport were destroyed (News—Persian: 8 July, 1987).

The Afghan Mujahideen are reported to have shot down two fighter planes of Communist forces near Jalalabad (19 July, 1987).

VOA: The Afghan Mujahideen this week disrupted traffic on the only government highway linking Kabul with Pakistani border. Fierce fighting has been continuing between Soviet army units and Afghan Mujahideen at this place for the last several days. The fighting broke out on Tuesday when nearly 2,000 Afghan Mujahideen erected barricades at 8 different points on the highway (News—Urdu: 9 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: Eighteen families of our compatriots comprising 113 members returned to their homes in Ningarhar province yesterday (23 July, 1987).

Kunar

Mujahideen Sources: 20 June: Mujahideen fire MBRL 107 mm rockets on an 'artillery brigade' (somewhere in Kunar) as a result of which 10 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and one tank and 2 other vehicles destroyed.

21 June: Two Mujahideen brothers Nazir and Shaistagul, sacrificed their lives' while trying to clear a Mujahideen 'operational route' of

land mines laid by Soviet-Kabul troops near Shigal.

22 June: Eight militiamen and 30 'Parchamies' were captured and 4 killed at a security post in Dara Noor.

24 June: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul security posts near Nowabad.

28 June: Mujahideen fire rockets on security posts in Sarkano district.

28 June: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul military establishments at Asmar, Chaghassarai (Kunar provincial centre), Sarkani and Noorgal. Soviet-Kabul forces suffered heavy losses in men and materials.

Sixty militiamen were captured during a well-coordinated offensive by the "Seven Party Alliance" begun several days ago.

Two helicopter gunships were shot down near Asmar on July 7 and 9.

Three tanks and 2 trucks were destroyed during Mujahideen attacks on a Soviet-Kabul 'border battalion' in Narang and Pashdi in Shonklai district.

The Soviets resorted to indiscriminate bombing in and around Shigal, Dan Gan, Ganjgal and Maroora. The two sides had been locked in pitched battles in these areas for over three weeks. There were casualties among the civilian population, as well, and a large number of houses were destroyed as a result of the bombardment.

A Soviet-Kabul army column moving out from the provincial headquarters of Asadabad and proceeding towards Darra Paitch was intercepted and compelled to retreat after suffering losses.

VOIR: The Freedom Fighters carried out a series of operations against the invading troops in Kunar Province this month killing and wounding a large number of them and destroying 3 tanks and 2 military trucks (News—Pushto: 14 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: Ninety families of our compatriots who were living abroad returned to their homes in Kunar, Herat and Jozjan provinces (9 July, 1987).

AIR: In Afghanistan, 6 people were killed and 9 others injured when the rebels fired rockets in Kunar province. The rockets caused losses in the provincial capital, Asadabad, and Sarkani area close to Pakistan border, according to Radio Kabul (27 July, 1987).

Radio Moscow: Counter-Revolutionaries opposed to the policy of national reconciliation fired rockets filled with phosphorus at Singal settlement (ph) in Kunar province. Several women and children were seriously hurt. Many houses and a mosque were damaged (News—English: 9 July).

Provinces Bordering Soviet Union

Badakhshan (also bordering Pakistan)

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen wiped out a military camp in Darwaz subdivision on the Amu river, June 14. Most of the Afghan government troops fled away without putting up resistance. However, their commanding officer along with 7 others were killed.

Takhar

Mujahideen Sources: 13 June: A Soviet-built helicopter hit by Mujahideen in Taloqan.

17 June: Mujahideen attack a Soviet military camp at Sheher-e-Kohna. Two concrete bunkers destroyed by rocket fire.

20 June: Mujahideen attack a Soviet base area in Rustaque. Ten soldiers killed and a number of buildings destroyed or damaged.

On July 7, Mujahideen attacked the Afghan government garrison at Kalafgan. The fighting started at 6 in the evening and continued till 8 O'clock on the next morning. Thirty Kabul government soldiers were killed or wounded. Another 110 were taken prisoners. The Mujahideen captured 70 light weapons, two mortars, two Dschks, one 76 mm howitzer and ammunition and food. The remainders of the garrison fled towards the provincial headquarters, Taloqan. This was a well-coordinated operation participated by contingents from different parts of the northern areas, including two mobile units from Commander Massoud's Central Force.

Kalafgan is an important supply centre on the communication line between the provinces of Kunduz and Badakhshan.

Radio Teheran: The Mujahideen in a joint operation on June 8, captured a military camp of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Takhar province. They killed 30 soldiers and captured more than one hundred others besides a huge quantity of arms and ammunition (News—Urdu: 24 July 1987).

Radio Kabul: Bakhtar Correspondent reports that the opponent extremist elements martyred a number of our innocent camptriot by planting land mines in Takhar province. The report said that a bus was on its way from Taloqan provincial headquarter to Farkhar Wolesswali. As a result of mine explosion all the 22 passengers were martyred (News—Pushto: 22 July, 1987).

BIA: Twenty extremists were captured by the security forces with the cooperation of the people in Orta Buz region, Takhar province. The people of the region had approached the security forces

with the request to arrest the miscreants and seize their illegal arms used for subversion.

The security forces, observing the ceasefire, entered the region and asked the extremists to lay down their arms and surrender, but they instead fired on the security forces. Following an exchange of fire, 20 extremists were captured and arms and ammunition including 24 assorted weapons, 200 mortar shells and thousands of cartridges were seized from them (BIA: 18 July, 1987).

Kunduz

Radio Teheran: During two operations in Kunduz and Salang the Muslim Revolutionaries have killed 35 Communist troops and destroyed 42 military trucks and tanks and also seized weapons (News—Urdu: 10 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: A ten-member armed group led by Faiz Mohammad which had been active in armed activities in Almar Alaquadari of Kunduz province for some time past laid down their arms yesterday and joined the humanitarian policy of National Reconciliation (News—Pushto: 11 July, 1987).

Baghlan

Mujahideen Sources: Mujahideen frustrated a Soviet offensive in the liberated Andrab Valley of Baghlan province eastwards of the Salang Highway on June 22. The Soviet offensive had centred on the Mujahideen base area of Pashai. In 8 hours of fierce fighting the Soviets lost two tanks and an armoured vehicle, while 24 of their troops were killed or wounded.

On July 7, Mujahideen ambushed a Soviet-Kabul convoy in the Andarab district, hitting several vehicles including tanks.

On July 9, they attacked security posts of Qarya Haji Darvesh and Gau awar, killing and capturing a number of militiamen.

On July 14, the Mujahideen attacked and killed somewhere in Baghlan a high KHAD (Secret Service) official, Mohammaduddin.

Radio Kabul: In response to the National Reconciliation offer, another six families of our camptriot comprising 45 persons, returned to their homes in Baghlan province (News—Urdu: 11 July, 1987).

The Chairman of the National Reconciliation Commission of Andarab Wolesswali of Baghlan province, Ghulam Haider, was martyred by the criminal extremists last night. The opponent extremists attacked and martyred the Chairman while he was offering Namaze Isha in the Jamia Mosque at 9.00 p.m. last night (News—Pushto: 27 July, 1987).

Samangan

Mujahideen Source: One mobile operation was reported by Mujahideen during July 1987.

Balkh

Mujahideen Sources: Seven Russians were killed or wounded and two tanks and another vehicle destroyed when Mujahideen attacked a military convoy in the vicinity of Vaghshor in Mazar-i-Sharif district on June 25.

Jozjan

Mujahideen Sources: A helicopter was shot down near Sheberghan on June 19.

Radio Kabul: Bakhtar News Agency reports that in view of the peaceful policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, several families of Afghan compatriots living a hard life in Pakistani and Iranian camps, have returned to their homes in Jozjan province. They have said that they would defend the country from foreign resistance (News—Baluchi: 27 July, 1987).

Faryab

Mujahideen Sources: 14 June: Soviet-Kabul forces attack Yakatoot village in Andkhoy district and burn harvested grain. Several of the invading troops were killed or wounded in shoot-outs.

16 June: Two militia commanders surrender to Mujahideen in Shalkatu along with 200 armed men.

17 June: Mujahideen clash with 'communist forces' in the villages of Char Singhoor and Saikh Leeq in Dawlatabad district. Twelve DRA soldiers killed.

24 June: A large contingent of Soviet-Kabul troops arrive in the villages of Yakatoot and Sergen Bagh in Andkhoy district to search for Mujahideen who resisted. Three trucks and 2 tanks were destroyed and 20 militiamen killed.

28 June: Nine militiamen killed during a Mujahideen attack on a militia post in Andkhoy district.

Radio Kabul: During the past 5 months more than 1,970 armed and another 4,047 unarmed men ceased living in the mountains, after learning about the policy of national reconciliation returned to their homes in Faryab province. They have resumed their normal life (News—English: 5 July, 1987).

Badghis

Radio Kabul: Another armed group with 9 members led by Gulyad stopped armed activities in the Badghis province and preferred to take patriotic part in maintaining peace and tranquillity in the related region (News—English: 6 July, 1987).

Provinces Bordering Iran

Herat (also bordering Soviet Union)

Mujahideen sources: 22 June: Mujahideen attack a security post in Herat city. Eleven 'regime supporters', including a KHAD 'activist', Eid Gul, were killed.

Eleven militiamen surrender to Mujahideen at Siawashan. Mujahideen also attack a security post near Herat Airport. Some regime soldiers were killed or wounded and a quantity of arms and ammunition was captured by Mujahideen.

Soviet-Kabul artillery open up on the civilian population resulting in the destruction of housing and death of civilians.

25 June: A land mine planted by Mujahideen blows up a Soviet tank on Jada-e-Maulawi Jami, inside Herat city.

27 June: A helicopter shot down in Faras district Herat. The wreckage fell in the adjoining Ghor province.

3 July: Mujahideen attack a string of security posts guarding the gigantic Soviet air base at Shindand. Seventeen Soviet-Kabul troops were killed against 5 of the Mujahideen. Mujahideen also captured a quantity of arms and ammunition and a transport vehicle. Another vehicle was destroyed.

VOIR: The Freedom Fighters have liberated Arbab-e-Ghani area in Herat. It is located on the Soviet border. The Freedom Fighters in a series of successful operations destroyed 4 posts of the invading troops in Herat province (1 July, 1987).

The Mujahideen attacked a hotel in Herat province on the 15th of the last month, as a result of which 8 Soviet troops were killed and 10 others injured. They also killed a KHAD agent in Hindwan (ph) area of Herat province (17 July, 1987).

The Mujahideen during other successful operations in the Ghorian governorate of Herat province killed 30 troops of the Kabul regime and destroyed 5 tanks and armoured vehicles (20 July, 1987).

BBC: Saifullah, a commander of Afghan guerrillas and two companions were killed in an ambush on Tuesday. They were attacked at a place near the Iranian border while travelling in a car. The attackers could not be identified.

They were travelling on the Tayabat-Turbat road to meet their families residing in Iran (News—Urdu: 9 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: According to reports reaching here, a leader of an extremist opponent group, Saifullah, was attacked and killed by members of another extremist band in Batiabad area (ph) in Iran recently. Saifullah had from the very beginning of the Saur Revolution been indulging in anti-revolutionary activities and organising terrorist activities. Two guards of Saifullah were also killed (News—Pushto: 11 July, 1987).

Farah

Mujahideen sources: The Mujahideen ambushed a military convoy near the subdivision town of Farah Rud in Farah province bordering with Iran on June 27. The Mujahideen had mined that portion of the road. Two tanks and another vehicle were destroyed by mines and rocket fire. Three Mujahideen were also killed in this action.

Radio Teheran: The Soviet-Kabul troops have shelled villages of Farah province with long-range guns as a result of which several people were killed and wounded and residential buildings destroyed. The Mujahideen counter-attacked and killed 7 communist soldiers and destroyed two armoured vehicles. Fighting continued for 4 hours (News—Urdu: 12 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: Relief goods from the friendly country Soviet Union were distributed among 44 returnees in Farah province (News—Pushto: 15 July, 1987).

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan

BBC: We have an interview in Dari (Persian) with an Afghan Mujahid in Peshawar.

“My name is Maulvi Fazal Elahi and I am a military Amir of Herkat-Inqilab in Bamiyan province. The people are facing difficulties due to Soviet air raids and also infantry attacks on Mujahideen positions”.

In reply to a question as to who is in control of the Bamiyan city, he said:

“The centre of Bamiyan city and the airport are in government control, while the remaining major portions of the city and district of Bamiyan are in the control of Mujahideen” (Current Affairs—Pushto: 28 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The extremist elements, the enemies of peace and

prosperity of our people, committed yet another inhuman crime in Bamiyan province yesterday. Bakhtar correspondent reports that the criminal extremists fired ground-to-ground missiles at the Bamiyan cinema house, wherein the Ulema, spiritual leaders, elders, representatives of the peasants, workers, students and teachers had gathered to discuss and express their views on the draft of the new constitution. As a result of the firing 6 persons, including 2 women, were killed and 2 others were injured (News—Pushto: 19 July, 1987).

Ghor

Mujahideen sources: The Mujahideen, on July 8, hit a military convoy near the township of Tewara, south of the provincial headquarters of Chakcharan. After two hours of fighting the convoy disengaged and retreated, carrying with them a number of dead and injured. They left behind wreckages of a tank and a truck. Twelve government soldiers joined the Mujahideen alongwith a jeep and some arms and ammunition.

While the Mujahideen were returning to their base area, Soviet helicopter gunships overtook and bombarded them. Four of the Mujahideen were killed and 18 injured.

Radio Kabul: Thirty-five families of 160 members have resumed their normal life in the Ghor province after returning from foreign countries (News—English: 20 July, 1987).

Uruzgan

Nil report.

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul

Mujahideen sources: The Soviet-Kabul forces mounted a big offensive in Paghman, a suburb of Kabul and Sanglakh, Maidan, further west of Paghman, June 25 to July 5. Infantry was supported by ‘hundreds of tanks’ and ‘several’ aircraft.

The first phase of the offensive was ended on June 21.

On July 22, the Soviet-Kabul troops moved on to Sanglakh in Maidan.

Both in Paghman and Sanglakh, the invading troops met with strong resistance. According to some accounts the Soviet-Kabul troops lost 500 soldiers, 16 tanks and 13 aircraft/helicopters. On the other side, 25 Mujahideen and 120 civilians were killed.

During the Soviet-Kabul visitation of Paghman and Sanglakh

villages, many women, children and old men fled to the hills. A story went round the neighbourhood that twenty of such women and children were hiding in an abandoned mill near a village Ziarat. A posse of Russian soldiers saw them. All of them were killed on June 28.

Some isolated incidents during this period were:

26 June: Mujahideen attack security post at Qila Sufaid, 15 km north of Kabul. Twelve government soldiers were captured.

Date unspecified: Mujahideen repulse an attack coming from the north along the Salang Highway. The Soviets lose a tank. Later they strafed the adjoining villages.

27 June: Mujahideen shell the Khawaja Rawash air terminal in Kabul. Twenty-eight 'Russians', including a high ranking officer, were killed and 3 aircraft destroyed. A runway and a hanger were damaged.

1 July: Mujahideen attack a number of security posts in Chakarai and Khurd Kabul. They captured two posts and seized a quantity of arms and ammunition. They killed 4 soldiers and captured 6.

A bomb blast in the Ministry of Education kills an official and injures 9 others.

2 July: Two helicopters shot down in a Paghman.

7 July: A jet brought down in Sarobi, Kabul.

On July 8 and 9, the Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul security posts on the Kabul-Jalalabad Highway. Two of these were destroyed near Sarobi and two others near Naghlau Dam. They also destroyed 7 tanks and shot down two jets. A bridge was blown up.

On July 12, Mujahideen raided a security post near the Salang Pass. Two tanks were hit with rockets.

On July 14, they fired missiles on a military camp in the Kake-e-Jabbar sub-divisional township, near Kabul.

A report received on July 22 said that the Soviets had tightened security in Kabul, amidst reports of intensified fighting in and around the capital city.

Radio Teheran: The Afghan Muslim Mujahideen attacked Communist forces of Kabul Government and the Soviet Union on the highway north of Kabul. Fifty-seven soldiers were killed in the attack carried out on the 12th of July and a large number of their tanks and armoured vehicles were set on fire.

On the 12th July, the Mujahideen attacked the government troops in Kabul and killed the commander and four other soldiers. Reports say that soldiers of the Kabul government are joining the ranks of Afghan Mujahideen (25 July, 1987).

BBC: In Pakistan, Western diplomats while commenting on recent fighting in Afghanistan say that the Soviet troops have vacated the

Paghman area, west of Kabul. Diplomats say that Soviet troops sent to Sanglakh valley 3 weeks ago are still in that area. Sanglakh valley is situated 30 km west of Paghman.

Diplomats added that Mujahideen are now capable of shooting down aircraft. Mujahideen sources say that fighting is continuing in Panjsher valley and the highway between Jalalabad and Kabul (News-Pushto: 15 July, 1987).

VOA: According to the reports received from Afghanistan the Soviet troops are concentrating in north of Kabul for some new offensive. Meanwhile, fierce fighting is continuing at some places. VOA correspondent John Shultz reports that apparently fresh reinforcements have joined the Soviet forces. Here are details by Sultan Ghazi:

These 'Lashkaries' belong to the Mari tribes of Pakistani Baluchistan province. A few weeks ago Baluchistan governor had said that many thousand people of the Mari tribes had been attracted to join the Soviet forces by the promise of military training and other awards. The Mujahideen returning to Pakistan after fighting around Qandahar city have reported a battle on July 7 in which the Afghan-Soviet troops had been joined by Pakistani Baluchs. They said that some of the killed and wounded in the fighting were Mari tribesmen (15 July, 1987).

Western diplomats say that following intensification of activities by Afghan Mujahideen in suburbs of Kabul, Soviet troops have taken major responsibility of security of the city in their own hands. Salahuddin Ahmed gives details of John Sultz's despatch from Islamabad regarding the latest war situation in Afghanistan.

Kabul city had been comparatively calm for some time, but for the last one and half week reports of fighting are coming from its outskirts. Citizens of Kabul often hear the sound of artillery shelling. They also see flames of bombs. Increasing resistance on behalf of Mujahideen is the apparent reason of deployment of Soviet troops in large numbers in the city.

Paghman is situated at a distance of twenty kilometres from this city. Soviet troops have been deployed there in place of Afghan troops at Kargah Sherain Bund. This lake is a recreation point for Russians and Afghan nobles.

There are reports that Soviet troops are digging deep trenches in this area since tenth of July and are erecting hedges around them. They have also taken up positions in place of Afghan troops at the south end of the lake.

Diplomat in Islamabad say that deployment of Soviet troops in the place of Afghan units means that performance of official Afghan troops has deteriorated. Most of them were recruited by force. It also

indicates the anxiety the Russians have about the security of Kabul. At the same time Soviets' confidence in the capability of Afghan official troops is gradually decreasing.

The major task before the Soviet troops is to keep open the roads and protect the militarily important highways throughout Afghanistan. It appears that Soviet troops have badly failed in protecting important places in the country. In Kabul, Afghan sources quoting a recent official review of the situation said that the highway linking Kabul with the third largest city of the country, Herat has become so dangerous that people are advised to travel between these cities by aircraft. Qandahar city is considered fifty per cent secure. In most parts of the city, rebels can carry out their activities freely. Further proof of Soviet troops' failure in protecting the highways was found in the beginning of this month. In Islamabad, Mujahideen sources say that between 6th to 9th July Soviet troops carried out a big operation as a result of which the seven kilometres long piece of Kabul-Jalalabad highway remained completely cut off (Radio Report—Urdu: 29 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: The Counter-Revolutionary Extremists committed another inhuman crime against our people today. The Bakhtar News Agency reports that as a result of a bomb explosion which took place in Microrian Market (Kabul) 3 persons were killed and 10 others were injured. The bomb had been skilfully planted in a motorcycle (News—Pushto: 18 July, 1987).

The security forces wiped out a strong band in Paghman Ulaswali of Kabul province with the cooperation of the people. ... Some of them were killed.

According to Bakhtar News Agency a huge quantity of arms and ammunition was seized by the security forces. These arms had secretly been supplied to the terrorists from Pakistan. The seized arms included ground-to-ground missiles, mortars, heavy guns and grenade launchers (News—Pushto: 11 July, 1987).

Parwan

Mujahideen sources: 15 June: Mujahideen attack 3 security posts manned by Russians in Qool Asyab, Rabat. Some Russians and Kabul regime soldiers were killed or wounded. Mujahideen also lost two fighters.

Two Russians hit a mine field outside a security post in Daoulet Shahi and were killed.

22 June: Mujahideen fire rockets on an oil tankers convoy hitting 30 of them in the Parwan part of the Salang Highway.

They attacked yet another convoy on the Salang highway the

same day destroying 21 tankers. Eighteen Soviet-Kabul troops were killed. The Mujahideen did not suffer any casualties during these two lightning attacks.

23 June: A SU aircraft shot down in Kharoti, near Bagram air base.

28 June: Mujahideen attack security posts in Rabat and Qaul-e-Asiyab, near Bagram air base. There were casualties on both sides.

3 July: Three Russians captured (somewhere in Parwan).

Eight 'Parchamies' killed or wounded during a Mujahideen mortar attack on an army establishment near Charikar.

Mujahideen fire on Soviet-Kabul posts across the Numan High School in Charikar.

A SU-22 plane hit by missile as it was coming down to land at Bagram air base.

4 July: Mujahideen killed 6 'notorious' members of the "KHAD".

An aircraft was shot down as it was flying out of Bagram Air base on bombing sorties.

9 July: Mujahideen attack the Battalion headquarters of Chob Froshi, north of Charikar, killing or injuring 8 soldiers. In another attack south of Charikar, Mujahideen capture 2 "Ruling Party Workers".

Radio Teheran: During an operation in Parwan province, Muslim Afghan Revolutionaries shot down a jet fighter, killed 8 troops and arrested 63 others. In retaliation, the jet fighters of Kabul government raided residential areas as a result of which several houses were demolished and some persons were killed and wounded.

After the death of their commander, 15 troops of the Marxist government of Kabul joined the ranks of Muslim Revolutionaries (10 July, 1987).

BIA: Kabul, July 15: Abusing the ceasefire, a number of extremist opposition groups made an attempt to carry out subversive activities and disturb the peaceful life of the residents of Gulbahar and Jabul-saraj districts in Parwan province, but were crushed on July 14 by the security forces with the cooperation of the local residents who had sought the help of the NR Commission.

Responding to the request of the people, the security forces entered the region and called on the extremist elements to surrender, but were met with fire. In the ensuing exchange, two extremist elements were killed and five others including two leaders Gul Khan and Aref, were captured. Their weapons and ammunition were also seized (KNT: 18 July, 1987).

Radio Moscow: Bakhtar News Agency reports that bands of counter-revolutionaries are continuing their subversive activities in a

number of areas in Afghanistan. A number of terrorists were killed in Parwan province, during a military operation while five others were arrested.

Local residents extended necessary help to the security forces (News—Pushto: 16 July, 1987).

Kapisa

Mujahideen sources: A Soviet mobile force lost a tank and a military vehicle on land mines planted by Mujahideen near Najrab town in the Panjsher valley of Kapisa on June 17. Mujahideen lobbed artillery shells on a Soviet military camp in Mahmood Rockety town. Twelve Soviet troops were believed have been injured.

On July 2, Mujahideen raided the KHAD sub-divisional headquarters in Najrab. In hand-to-hand fighting the local head of KHAD and two other officers were killed. A Mujahid was also killed. The Mujahideen captured some arms and ammunition from the KHAD office.

In an action on July 8, Mujahideen attacked an Afghan government garrison at Baharak. Mujahideen lost three of their fighters against 20 regime soldiers. They also destroyed 2 tanks, one BM-21 and 3 APCs.

Laghman

Mujahideen sources: A Soviet reconnaissance aircraft was shot down in the Nooristan Valley on June 20.

Logar

Mujahideen sources: 18 June: Mujahideen attack a Soviet-Kabul convoy on the Kabul-Gardez Highway. Seven APCs destroyed.

26 June: Mujahideen attack Russian camping grounds in Barak-i-Barak district. Mujahideen also attack security posts in Fateh Khel area. Two tanks destroyed. The Soviets brought in commandos by helicopters for attacking Mujahideen positions in Kraiz and Kandau: but, they were defeated. Mujahideen killed and wounded a number of them.

On July 3, Mujahideen attacked and dispersed a 'meeting' being held at the Mohammad Agha district headquarters. Many 'officials' and 'government workers' were killed. On the following day a mine planted outside a security post in Khoshi blew up an oil tanker.

On July 6, Mujahideen ambushed a convoy on the Kabul-Paktiya road and destroyed or damaged 3 tanks and a jeep.

On July 8, Mujahideen attacked a security post in Mohammad Agha district with rockets, killing dozens of militiamen.

A bloody action was fought in Pul-i-Kandhari region on July 11, when Russian troops were on way back after operations in Maidan, Wardak province. They were attacked by Mujahideen and fighting continued for almost 8 hours. The Russians lost 18 vehicles including tanks. More than 80 of them were supposed to have been killed or wounded.

Four Soviet tanks were destroyed or damaged when one of their columns stumbled into a mine-field in Tangi Waghjan on July 12.

On the same day, July 12, Soviet-Kabul troops encircled a group of Mujahideen in Logar Valley. The Mujahideen were ambushed while heading towards Gardana Ali Malang area. The Mujahideen were relieved by Freedom Fighters from the adjoining Tabuk Front.

On the Tabuk Front, the Mujahideen destroyed a tank in the Tangi Daman area which lies close to Pul-e-Alam, the provincial headquarters of Logar.

Radio Teheran: The Muslim Afghan Revolutionaries attacked a military column of Soviet troops on the 12th of July in Logar province. Besides killing and wounding 80 communists they also destroyed 5 tanks. According to an IRNA report the Soviet troops in retaliation attacked a passenger bus and martyred 2 passengers and injured some others (15 July, 1987).

Wardak

Mujahideen sources: In an operation in Wardak province, June 12, Mujahideen ran over a Soviet army camp. The Soviets had established the camp at Zamburak for blocking Mujahideen lines of communication north and north-westwards. The Russians fled the camp, carrying with them 3 dead bodies.

The same day the Mujahideen attacked Maidan Shehr. Here a security post commander and 4 troops were killed.

On June 16, Mujahideen raided a Soviet-Kabul establishment at Chak-Wardak. A large number of servicemen and civilians were killed in this operation and a 'Reconciliation Office' burnt.

On June 19, a large Soviet-Kabul forces arrived in Wardak to attack Mujahideen centres and strong points. In the fighting which lasted several days the invading force lost about 400 troops. They also lost several tanks and aircraft.

On June 21, a tank and 3 trucks of a military convoy were destroyed near Maidan city.

24 June: Mujahideen ambush a convoy at Saido. It was moving towards Qandahar. Using rocket launchers the Mujahideen destroyed 2 tanks. Later, Soviet planes bombarded the surrounding rural areas,

causing many casualties.

In fighting beginning at Sanglakh (Maidan) June 21 and ending July 9, an estimated 17 Soviet tanks were destroyed. Mujahideen also captured 15 servicemen and a quantity of arms and ammunition. Fourteen Mujahideen and 60 civilians were also killed.

A helicopter gunship was shot down near Dadal, 15 km from Maidan Shehr, capital of Wardak. Six women and children were killed by Soviet-Kabul bombardment.

Four jets were shot down in the Jalraiz valley. Both sides are believed to have suffered heavy casualties in this area.

Radio Teheran: The Afghan Muslim freedom fighters shot down 13 Soviet planes and helicopters, during large scale operations in Sanglakh pass of Maidan province in Afghanistan.

Afghan Mujahideen sources reported that the freedom fighters inflicted heavy losses on the aggressive troops during these 21-day of long operations. The Mujahideen destroyed 17 armoured vehicles of the enemy and arrested 17 Communist troops, including two Soviet officers.

In retaliation, the aggressive troops bombarded civilian residential areas of the province and demolished 100 residential units while killing 60 defenceless people (News—Pushto: 23 July, 1987).

VOA: The Mujahideen sources have also reported fierce fighting with the Soviet-led Kabul troops in Wardak province. They say that several villages have been destroyed in the hilly areas and a large number of civilians have sustained injuries (News—Urdu: 18 July, 1987).

It is reported that a fierce fighting is continuing in Wardak province east of Kabul for the last five days. This fighting is said to be the severest fighting in the area so far and most of troops taking part in it were Soviet troops. Some other unconfirmed reports say that 35 armoured vehicles of the Communist troops have already been destroyed and the Mujahideen sources claimed that they hit about 20 helicopters and other aircraft of the enemy, with missiles. Heavy loss of life to civilians has also been reported. Dozens of villages in the hilly areas have also been demolished. It is said that about three thousand Mujahideen belonging to different areas are taking part in the fighting. This is a very large number of Mujahideen compared to many other operations in the past and if it is confirmed, it will further prove the intensity of the fresh fighting (Radio Report—Urdu: 18 July, 1987).

Radio Kabul: Bakhtar News Agency has reported that the security forces of the country seized a large quantity of arms from the counter-revolutionary extremists in Wardak province. These arms and ammunition were being brought from Pakistan for murder and loot in our

country (News—Pushto: 1 July, 1987).

BIA: Kabul, July 6: The security forces of the country recently captured several ammunition depots of the extremists in Shir Khan, Deh Ziarat, Birana and Ali Khel regions of Wardak province.

The weapons included 148 reactive shells, 63 surface-to-surface rockets, one recoilless cannon, one heavy machine gun, one rocket launcher, 24 other arms, 176 mortars, 63 rockets, 51 recoilless cannon shells, thousands of cartridges and a large quantity of explosive substances which were brought from Pakistan for staging subversive acts.

Weapons dumps of the extremists in Dara-e-Zargar, Qala-i-Hakim, Eisa Khel and Dara-i-Pashaie regions of Paghman district were also seized by the security forces with the cooperation of the NR Commission and the residents of the district. The weapons included one recoilless cannon with 89 shells, one rocket launcher and 88 shells, four heavy machine guns, 10 assorted light weapons, one Dashaka, 19 boxes of cartridges and 48 mortars (KNT, 7 July, 1987).

Radio Moscow: In Afghanistan, local residents have helped security forces to disarm a large terrorist band that operated in the provinces of Wardak and Kabul. The government forces have seized a large number of arms including four hundred and fifty surface-to-surface rockets, anti-aircraft guns and mortars (News—English: 12 July, 1987).

4 — PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

Radio Kabul

Given below are the major Kabul Radio themes in July 1987 in descending order of recurrence:—

1. Allegations against Pakistan government like its "direct or indirect involvement in the undeclared war against DRA".
2. Highlighting Kabul plan for national reconciliation and its blessings.
3. Attacks on the personality of Pakistan's President Zia.
4. Alleged foreign intervention in Afghanistan by U.S. Western media Pakistan, Iran and China etc.
5. Projection to certain provincialist elements critical of Pakistan's central government policies in smaller provinces and the tribal areas.

Radio Moscow

Given below are the major Moscow media themes in July 1987 in descending order of recurrence:—

1. Highlighting Kabul's national reconciliation plan.

2. Criticising Pakistan government on its failure to check blasts, arms traffic and attributing to its wrong policy regarding Afghanistan.
3. Foreign intervention in Afghanistan especially on the part of Pakistan, U.S., Western Countries, etc.
4. Concern on Pakistan's acquisition of arms and its alleged designs to acquire nuclear power.
5. Condemnation of terrorist acts by counter-revolutionary elements in Afghanistan.

APPENDIX — 1

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN JULY 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Human Losses

Soviet Casualties	:	464 killed and	159 wounded
Kabul Casualties	:	256 killed and	93 wounded
Soviet-Kabul Casualties	:	1296 killed and	416 wounded
Defections	:	136 Kabul troops defected and	181 captured
Mujahideen Casualties	:	165 killed and	247 wounded
Afghan Civilian Casualties	:	182 killed and	102 wounded

Material Losses

Soviet-Kabul Material Losses:—

Aircraft	17	LMGs	7	Security Posts	71
Helicopters	16	HMGs	27	Khad Offices	3
Tanks	92	Klashnikovs	226	Buildings	14
APCs	40	R. Launchers	36	Wireless sets	14
HMVs	76	Pistols	1	S.K. residences	11
Trucks	31	Bunkers	10	Installations	—
Jeeps	8	Doshaka	—	Radio Stations	—
Oil Tankers	32	Rifles	—	Powerhouses	—
Misc.		Handgrenades	—	Food Depots	—
Weapons	1460	Doshka	—	Buildings	—
Bullets of different kinds	8000			Cinema	—
				Concrete bunkers	—

Mujahideen Material Losses:

Jeep 1

APPENDIX - 2

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN JULY 1987: SOVIET-KABUL (RADIO KABUL) SOURCES

Mujahideen and Afghan Civilian ("Counter-Revolutionaries")
Losses:

Killed	:	66	
Captured	:	58	
Returnees	:	4,373	(Those availing amnesty, voluntarily surrendering, changing allegiance and joining Soviet-Kabul ranks).

Material Losses inflicted to CRs:

Mortars	:	225
Arms Depot	:	8
LMGs	:	38
Landmines	:	108
Rocket Launchers	:	33
Boxes of HMG Shells	:	427
Different Shells	:	988
Rockets	:	444
Ground-to-ground missiles	:	64
Cannons	:	4

Human and Material Losses by CR Elements:

Civilian losses	:	42 killed and 54 wounded
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Material Losses:

Vehicles	:	2
Bus	:	1
Mosque	:	1

APPENDIX - 3

PROVINCEWISE ENGAGEMENTS IN JULY 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engagements	Provincial Capital	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	2	Zaranj	—	—
Hilmand	7	Lashkargarh	1	—
Qandahar	37	Qandahar	3	—
Zabul	10	Kalat Gilzai	—	—
Ghazni	18	Ghazni	5	1
Paktika	20	Sharna	—	2
Paktiya	21	Gardez	—	—
Ningarhar	44	Jalalabad	—	—
Kunar	42	Chagha Sarai	2	1
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	3	Faizabad	—	—
Takhar	12	Taloqan	1	—
Kunduz	1	Kunduz	—	—
Baghlan	6	Baghlan	—	—
Samangan	1	Samangan	—	—
Balkh	3	Mazar Sharif	—	—
Jozjan	4	Shebergan	—	—
Faryab	16	Maimana	—	—
Badghis	—	Qala Nau	—	—
Bordering Iran				
Herat	13	Herat	4	2
Farah	19	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan	—	—
Ghor	—	Chaghcharan	—	—
Uruzgan	10	Tarin Kot	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces				
Kabul	71	Kabul	6	2
Parwan	28	Charikar	1	—
Kapisa	8	Mahmud-i-Raqi	—	—
Laghman	6	Mehtarlam	—	—
Logar	32	Pule Alam	2	—
Wardak	74	Koteasro	3	1
TOTAL:	498		28	9

APPENDIX — 4

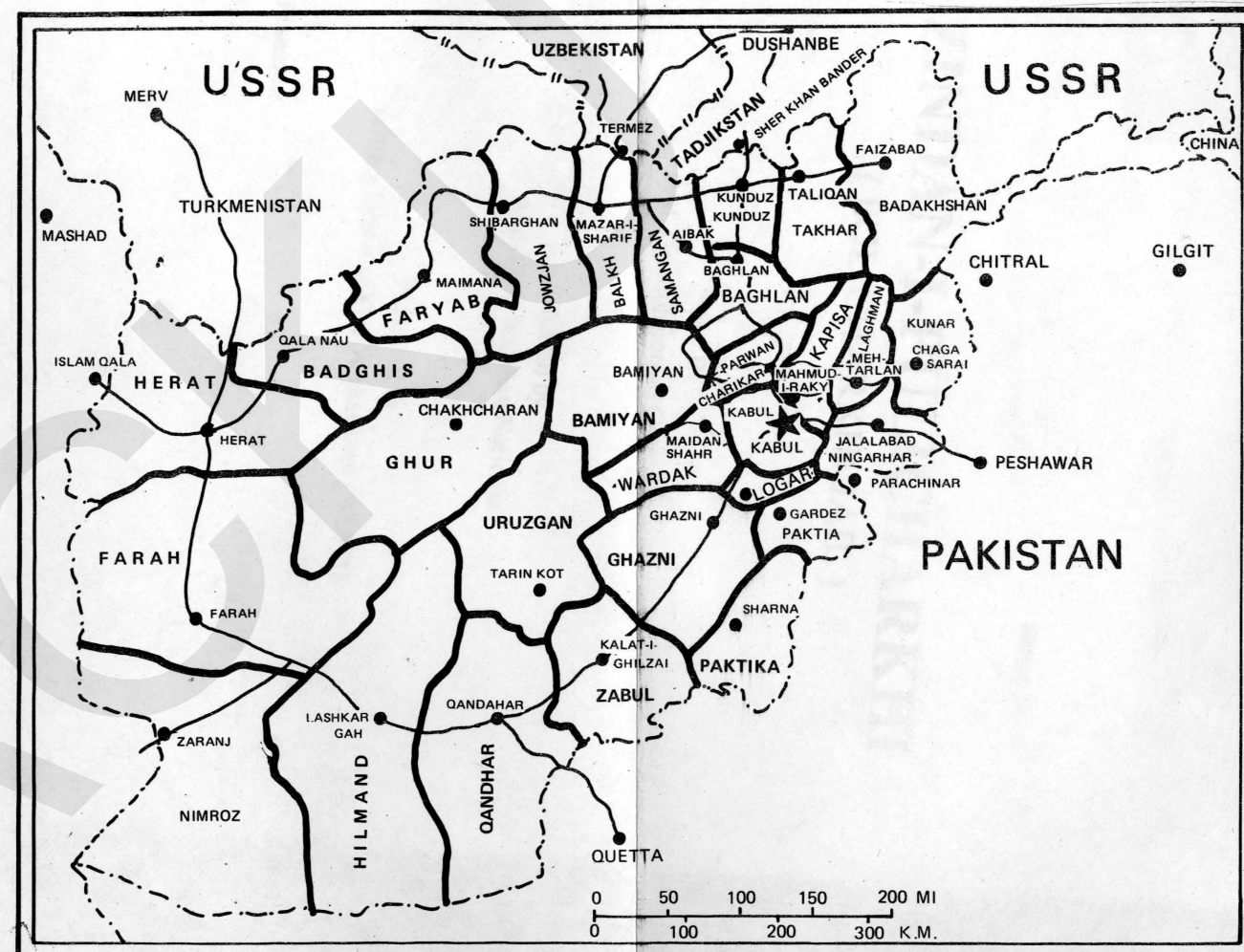
**MUJAHIDEEN MOBILE & IMMOBILE TARGETS AND
SOVIET-KABUL OPERATIONS IN JULY 1987
(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)**

Provinces	Mujahideen Targets		Soviet-Kabul Operations	
	Mobile	Immobile	Ground	Air
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	1	1	—	—
Hilmand	1	4	—	2
Qandahar	7	10	3	17
Zabul	3	1	—	6
Ghazni	5	11	2	—
Paktika	5	7	2	6
Paktiya	6	14	1	—
Ningarhar	10	17	7	10
Kunar	7	20	2	13
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	1	2	—	—
Takhar	2	4	3	3
Kunduz	—	1	—	—
Baghlan	3	2	1	—
Samangan	—	1	—	—
Balkh	—	2	—	1
Jozjan	—	1	—	3
Faryab	6	4	3	3
Badghis	—	—	—	—
Bordering Iran				
Herat	3	3	4	3
Farah	2	4	—	3
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—
Central Afghanistan				
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—
Ghor	1	2	1	6
Uruzgan	—	—	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces				
Kabul	17	15	9	30
Parwan	5	16	2	5
Kapisa	6	2	—	—
Laghman	—	4	—	2
Logar	12	12	7	1
Wardak	16	8	19	31
TOTAL:	119	168	66	145

APPENDIX — 5

**PROVINCEWISE SOVIET-KABUL SECURITY OPERATIONS AND
RETURNEES IN JULY 1987 (Radio Kabul)**

Provinces	Soviet-Kabul Operations	Counter-Revolutionaries Action	R e t u r n e e s	
			Total Reports	Numbers
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	—	—	—	—
Hilmand	—	—	—	—
Qandahar	1	3	—	—
Zabul	1	2	—	—
Ghazni	—	—	—	—
Paktika	—	—	—	—
Paktiya	—	1	3	799
Ningarhar	—	—	5	615
Kunar	—	3	2	338
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	—	—	—	—
Takhar	1	2	—	—
Kunduz	—	—	1	53
Baghlan	—	—	2	40
Samangan	—	—	2	40
Balkh	—	—	—	—
Jozjan	—	—	9	1452
Faryab	—	—	2	41
Badghis	—	—	1	9
Bordering Iran				
Herat	—	—	6	1161
Farah	—	—	1	44
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	1	—	—
Ghor	—	—	1	362
Uruzgan	—	—	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces				
Kabul	4	4	—	—
Parwan	—	—	—	—
Kapisa	—	—	—	—
Laghman	—	—	1	46
Logar	—	—	—	—
Wardak	5	—	—	—
TOTAL:	12	17	32	4960



Radio Kabul: Conflict reported during July 1987 in 9 Provinces. These Provinces are: Qandahar, Zabul, Paktiya, Kunar, Takhar, Kunduz, Bamiyan, Kabul and Wardak.

APPENDIX — 7

AFGHAN CIVILIAN HUMAN AND MATERIAL LOSSES IN JULY 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Date	Province	Locality	Civilians		Houses Destroyed
			K	W	
12-6-87	Qandahar	Loya Wiala	—	—	3
10-7-87	Qandahar	Pushtoon Bagh	20	50	12
20-7-87	Qandahar	Arghandab	—	—	—
22-7-87	Qandahar	Arghandab	—	—	3
7-7-87	Paktiya	Bajwura	3	—	—
25-6-87	Ningarhar	Chaparhar	2	—	—
25-6-87	Ningarhar	Kama	—	—	5
29-6-87	Ningarhar	Chaparhar	—	10	12
9-7-87	Ningarhar	Tribal Areas	2	—	2
29-6-87	Kunar	Dewagay	2	—	—
10-7-87	Kunar	Shiegal	—	10	15
14-6-87	Faryab	Yakatoot	—	—	—
22-6-87	Herat	Herat airport	2	12	5
22-5-87	Farah	Farsi dist.	—	—	4
27-6-87	Kabul	Wa-Khan Mena	—	5	—
15-6-87	Parwan	Salang Area	7	—	14
15-6-87	Wardak	Sufar	1	1	3
28-6-87	Wardak	Maidan	140	—	—
24-6-87	Wardak	Saldo	2	10	—
9-7-87	Wardak	Saidabad	1	—	5
11-7-87	Wardak	Dadul	—	6	5
Total:			182	102	83

NOTES

The monthly Afghanistan Report is a carefully researched document for the benefit of scholars and policy-makers. Its aim is to present an objective analysis of the Afghan resistance, and the Soviet-Kabul military and psychological warfare.

The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Soviet Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Information Centre, Afghan News, HIA despatches and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are conscious of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up among the Mujahideen.

Figures of casualties and material losses given in Section 3 are in only those few cases where such inclusions were necessary for proper appreciation of the given events.

Losses reported in "Soviet-Kabul" category are often physically not verifiable by the Mujahideen and therefore mostly speculative.

The reports received and reported are subject to the process of verification, whenever possible, which may include interviewing with those most directly informed on the events.

Dates given in parenthesis in the chapter "Province-wise Survey Analysis" are of the actual broadcast.

Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VOIR).

PERIOD COVERED

Facts and figures given in this study are based on reports mostly received during July 1-31, 1987. Appendices 1-7 also incorporate June 1987 incidents reported in July 1987.

II.— THE POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

1 — FOREIGN VISITS AND AGREEMENTS

Messages

Messages on various occasions were sent to, received from and exchanged with the following countries and organizations: Algeria, Bangladesh, Britain, Democratic Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Hungary, India, Iraq, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Poland, United Nations Organization, and Yemen Arab Republic.

India

Harkishan Singh Surjeet, member of Politburo of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) who had arrived Kabul on June 29, 1987 at the invitation of PDPA CC left for home on July 5, 1987. During his stay Surjeet met, amongst others, by Dr. Najib, Noor Ahmad Noor, Lt. Gen. Mohammad Rafi, Najmuddin Kawyani (*KNT*, 5, 6 July).

Mr. Muqem Farooqi, Secretary of the National Council and Member of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of India visited Kabul in the month of July 1987. A protocol on co-operation between the PDPA and the Communist Party of India for the years 1987-1990, was signed on July 15, 1987. Mr. Farooqi also met Dr. Najib (*Radio Kabul*, 13, 17 July).

A protocol on technical cooperation involving 100 million Afghanis gratis aid to India for equipping the extension of Indira Gandhi Child Health Institute, Kabul, was signed on July 12, 1987 by Mr. I.P. Khosla, the Indian Ambassador with Nazar Mohammad, Minister of Construction of DRA. According to the protocol the Indian Government would deliver technical equipment and materials for central heating water supply, drainage, air conditioning, power etc. Protocol on the building of the hospital extension at a cost of 282 million Afghanis in Indian aid had been signed earlier (*KNT*, 14 July).

Iran

On July 2, 1987 the Charge d' Affaires of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran was given a protest note by the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs about Iran's refusal to grant permission to Afghanistan to operate charter flights of Bakhtar Afghan Airlines to

Tehran to bring the Afghans who wished to return home and also the obstacles 'allegedly' created by the Iranian authorities to the voluntary return of the Afghans to their homeland (KNT, 5 July).

Mongolia

Najmuddin Kawyani, Alternate Member of Politburo and Secretary of PDPA CC, leading a party delegation visited Mongolia in the month of July 1987, for participation in the consultative session of the Communist and Workers Parties of Asia and the Pacific, held in Ulan Bator (KNT, 6 July).

Prime Minister Keshtmand, heading a delegation, comprising of the following, visited Mongolia from July 7 to 13, 1987, at the invitation of the Mongolian People's Republic and to participate in the 66th anniversary of the People's revolution of Mongolia:—

- a. *Mohammad Hakim*. Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers.
- b. *Najeebullah Maseer*. Minister of Mines and Industries.
- c. *Ghulam Farouq Kabakiwal*. Minister of Agriculture and Land Reforms.
- d. *Mohammad Daud Razmyar*. Head of the Economic department of the PDPA CC.
- e. *Farid Zarif*. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- f. Some Pressmen.

On July 10, 1987 the following agreements were signed between the two sides:—

- a. Agreement on the main directions of socio-economic co-operation between the DRA and MPR. The agreement aims at cooperation in socio-economic, scientific, cultural and agricultural fields as well as in the establishment of joint economic institutions, mines and industries etc.
- b. Agreement on gratis aid of the MPR to the DRA. According to the agreement the Mongolian Government will assist DRA till 1990 in consumer goods valued at two million Togrie (KNT, 8, 12 July and Radio Kabul, 13 July).

Pakistan

Jirgas of Madda Khel Wazir, headed by Hayat Khan and Tori Khel Wazir headed by Malik Mehr Dil Khan visited Kabul and met separately with Haji Mohammad Samkani, Acting President of the DRA RC Presidium on July 9 and 27, 1987 respectively. The jirgas supported the DRA policy of National Reconciliation and pledged to work for its implementation.

UN

At an invitation of the DRA Government, Prof. Ermacora, Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation in Afghanistan, arrived Kabul on July 30, 1987, on a ten days visit, to prepare a report on human rights in Afghanistan for the UNO.

USSR

A protocol was signed on July 2, 1987 on the work of the Afghan-Soviet Permanent Commission for economic cooperation with regard to the tasks assigned by the sixth session of the commission and preparation of preliminary agenda of its seventh sitting. The protocol was signed by Mohammad Aziz, Afghan Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Committee and Igor Khustialey, Soviet co-Chairman of the joint Afghan-Soviet Commission. During the meetings it was pointed out that both sides had satisfactorily accomplished the decisions of the sixth session of the Commission. The sessions of the commissions are held annually in Kabul and Moscow (KNT, 5 July).

The Technoexport of USSR and the Ministry of Education of the DRA signed, on July 5, 1987 a protocol on the delivery of Soviet gratis aid, including audiovisual and laboratory equipment, value of seven million Roubles, to Afghanistan. The protocol was signed by Abdul Samad Qayumi, Afghan Minister of Education and F. Petrov, Counselor for Economic Affairs of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul (KNT, 6 July).

A protocol was signed on July 8, 1987 by the Deputy Minister of Commerce of the DRA and the Deputy General Director of Foreign Trade Union of USSR for constructing 108 residential apartments for employees of the joint Afghan-Soviet Transport Company (AFSOTR) in Kabul and Hairatan and Torghundi river ports. The protocol also provides for 20-30 per cent raise in the salary of personnel of AFSOTR and by 60 per cent of those who work in hard conditions. Besides the food allowance of AFSOTR employees would also be raised by 50 per cent (KNT, 12 July).

On July 12, 1987 a Soviet delegation, led by the second Deputy Secretary of Tashkent Party Committee visited the medical centre, Party Committee and Council of the People's Deputies of Khulm district. The visiting delegation promised help to the above institutions and assistance in digging deep wells, establishment of canning and dairy products manufacture, construction of dams and supply of agro-machinery to the Khulm district. They also gifted to the Samangan Women Council 20 tailoring and knitting machines and 50,000 metres of cloth as a present from the women of Tashkent (KNT, 13 July).

A consignment of 30 tons of goods including school equipment, teaching, art and sports materials as gifted by the Soviet Komsomol and pioneers organizations to the Afghan youth, children and pioneers, was received in Kabul on July 17, 1987. Reportedly a total of 600 tons of such goods had been collected by the mentioned Soviet organizations for Afghanistan to be sent to Afghanistan in instalments (*KNT*, 18 July).

Dr. Najib, General Secretary of the PDPA CC left for Soviet Union on a short visit on July 19, 1987. Mr. Mozhaev, the Soviet Ambassador in Kabul also left for Moscow with him.

On July 20, 1987 official talks were held between Dr. Najib and Mr. Gorbachev on various bilateral and international issues. They also discussed additional steps and measures in the interest of a speedier normalization of the situation around Afghanistan.

During the official talks, on request of the Afghan side, an agreement was also reached on a joint Soviet-Afghan Space flight (*KNT*, 21 July, *AIR*, 21 July, *BBC*, 20 July and *Radio Kabul*, 19 July).

On July 19, 1987 Mohammad Hakim, General President of Chambers of Commerce and Industries of DRA, owners of Laziz and Omer Bakeries of Kabul and Deputy Counsellor for Economic Affairs of the Soviet Embassy signed a protocol on setting up bakeries in the private sector with Soviet credit of 50 million Roubles (*KNT*, 21 July).

After the announcement of national reconciliation programme the Soviet Union has provided a loan of fifty million Roubles to Afghanistan aimed at making the programme a success and strengthening the private sector. The loan is to be utilized for construction of industrial projects besides the purchase of machinery and other goods (*Radio Kabul*, 25 July).

On July 28 and 29, 1987, 1700 children of workers, martyrs of revolution, peasants and repatriates alongwith 45 teachers of Afghanistan were flown from Kabul to the Soviet Union for one month rest and recreation. Out of the total, 1000, 400 and 300 children were to stay in the Soviet Republics of Uzbekistan, Tajekistan and Kirghistan respectively. It is since 1981 under a protocol between the Trade Unions of the two countries that such visits are arranged every year for Afghan children of 10 to 14 years age group. Last year 1500 children had visited the Soviet Republics (*Radio Kabul*, 27 July).

Mohammad Aziz, Deputy Chairman of Council of Ministers and President of the State Committee for Planning of the DRA, heading a delegation left Kabul for Moscow on July 28, 1987 to participate in the Seventh Session of Afghan-Soviet Joint Economic Commission held there on July 29-30, 1987 (*Radio Kabul*, 27 July).

A Joint Soviet-Afghan Commission is ending its work in Moscow. It has adopted concrete plans of cooperation in industry and agriculture. A protocol will be signed on further links in energy, gas extraction and irrigation. One hundred and five more economic projects are being designed or built in the Republic with the Soviet participation (*Radio Moscow*, 29 July).

2 — POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Periodical Session of Politburo of PDPA CC Held

A periodical session of Politburo of PDPA CC was held on July 7, 1987. The following points were discussed and decisions taken thereon:

- a. A resolution was adopted to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution in a befitting manner in the DRA.
- b. The joint resolution of the Politburo and the Council of Ministers on organising economic, technical and cultural cooperation between the provinces of the DRA and the Soviet Union was reviewed and directives were issued to the concerned organs to improve matters further.
- c. The proposal of the High Council of Ulema and Clergymen for founding a weekly called 'Directives of Islam', as the publication organ of the Council. The weekly would project the Islamic teachings.
- d. Addiction to alcoholic drinks and narcotics, bribery, misuse of public property etc were considered contrary to Islamic tenents and social morals in the society. The concerned agencies were directed to carry on a decisive struggle against these.
- e. The report of the Afghan delegation about its participation in the National Conference of Yemen Socialist Party was evaluated and the concerned organs asked to further strengthen relations with the parties, governments and social circles of Arab, Islamic and non-aligned countries.
- f. The Politburo endorsed conferring of medals of the '10th anniversary of the April Revolution' on the men of the armed forces and 'service and success medals' on civilians, best graduates, lecturers and commanders of military educational institutions and other employees (*KNT*, 12 July).

The Political Organizational Seminar of PDPA CC

The seminar was held in the hall of the Social Sciences Institute of the PDPA CC from 2-4 July 1987 for explaining the directives of the

Central Committee in the election of delegates to Party conference and publicising the policy of national reconciliation. In his speech on the conclusion of the seminar Dr. Najib underlined the main direction of work of the seminar participants in explaining the decisions of the June (1987) Plenum of the Party, preparation for the second national conference of the Party, strengthening of the armed forces and on the new constitution of the DRA. The seminar was attended by members of the Politburo and secretariat of the Party's CC, heads and staff of departments of the CC, members of the Council of Ministers, leading members of the social organizations, heads of the organization and publicity and extension departments of Provincial Party Committees etc (*KNT*, 5 July).

RC Presidium approves Law on Political Parties

During an extraordinary session of the RC Presidium of the DRA, held on July 5, 1987 under the chairmanship of Haji Mohammad Samkani, Acting President, the law on Political Parties, was approved. The decree of the Presidium stated as under:—

“The RC Presidium of the DRA, relying on the goodwill of the people of Afghanistan in implementing the policy of national reconciliation and establishing nation-wide peace, for democratization of the socio-political life, active participation of political parties and citizens of the DRA, in the political life of the country, endorses under Article 44 of the Fundamental Principles of the DRA — (the law on Political Parties)”.

(*KNT*, 6, 7 July, Radio Kabul, 4-7 July and BBC, 5 July).

Draft Constitution of the DRA

The Presidium of DRA RC, during a periodic session held on July 11, 1987, approved the draft constitution of the DRA. The Commission for drafting the constitution was assigned to inform all Afghan citizens through mass media the draft constitution and collect their views and proposals. After collecting views and proposals, the final draft would be presented to the RC Presidium for confirmation and later to the Loya Jirga for approval. The draft constitution which has 12 chapters and 137 articles was published accordingly in the press on July 15, 1987. Article 2 of the draft says: “Sacred religion of Islam is the religion of Afghanistan” (BBC, 13 July and *KNT*, 14, 15 July).

National Reconciliation Programme of DRA—Extension in the Period of Unilateral Ceasefire

Dr. Najib in his address, over Radio and TV, to the nation on July

14, 1987, the last day of the ceasefire, announced extension of six months in the period of ceasefire. Emphasizing upon the formation of a coalition Government having representatives from the opposition groups, he offered the following posts to the opposite side for realising the policy of national reconciliation:—

- a. Vice President of the Revolutionary Council.
- b. Vice President of the Republic after the endorsement of the constitution.
- c. Deputy Prime Minister (Council of Ministers).
- d. Supreme Court (Chief Justice).
- e. Ministry of Domestic Trade.
- f. Ministry of External Trade.
- g. Ministry of Mines and Industries.
- h. Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education.
- j. Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- k. Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms and Ministry of Justice.
- l. Ministry of Islamic Affairs.
- m. Ministry of Construction.
- n. State Committee for Culture.
- o. Ministry of Public Health.
- p. Ministry of Nationalities.
- q. Ministry of Light and Food Industry.
- r. State Committee for Repatriates.
- s. State Committee for Labour and Social Security.
- t. State Minister for External Affairs.
- u. State Minister for Foreign Economic Relations.
- v. State Minister for Nationalities.
- w. State Minister for Tribal Affairs.
- x. State Committee for Sports and Physical Training.
- y. Also posts of ministers without portfolio in economic, social law and judicial affairs and roving Ambassadors.

(*KNT*, 16 July and AIR, 11, 21 July).

Transfers/Postings

The following transfers/postings were made during the month of July 1987:—

- a. *Habib Mangal*, DRA Ambassador to Moscow, as Chairman of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of the DRA vice Dr. Anahita Ratebzad.
- b. *Mohammadullah Safi*, DRA Ambassador to People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, as DRA Ambassador to Moscow

vice Habib Mangal.

- c. *Assadullah Payam*, as DRA Ambassador to People's Democratic Republic of Yemen vice Mohammadullah Safi.
- d. *Noor Mohammad Khurami*, as Ambassador to Ethiopia vice Ghulam Jilani Bakhtari.
- e. *Mohammad Shafee Azimi*, Head of the Department of Finance, PDPA CC DRA Ambassador to Vietnam vice Mohammad Farooq Karmand.
- f. *Mohammad Farooq Karmand*, as Deputy Foreign Minister.

Political Situation—Band of Counter-Revolutionaries continue Subversive Activities in various Afghan Areas

Bakhtar news agency reports that bands of "counter-revolutionaries" are continuing their subversive activities in a number of areas in Afghanistan. A number of terrorists were killed in Parwan province, during a military operation while five others were arrested. Local residents extended necessary help to the security forces (Radio Moscow, 16 July).

Terrorist Activities Continue in Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, terrorist bands are continuing their activities in a bid to disrupt the national reconciliation underway in the country. According to the Afghan news agency Bakhtar, they have fired rockets at several communities in the Kunar province. Women and children are reported to have been killed and wounded (Radio Moscow, 27 July).

National Reconciliation Commission Chairman killed in Baghlan

According to a report of Radio Kabul, the Chairman of the National Reconciliation Commission in Baghlan province has been killed. The report said he was killed by the Mujahideen last Sunday. It may be recalled that the Mujahideen have so far killed four chairmen of these commissions since the announcement of national reconciliation process in Afghanistan (VIRA 28 July).

Chairman of Andarab National Reconciliation Commission killed

A source of the Supreme National Reconciliation Commission has reported that Chairman of the National Reconciliation Commission of Andarab Woleswali of Baghlan province Ghulam Haider was martyred by the criminal extremists last night. The opponent extremists attacked the Jamia Mosque of Banu at 9.00 p.m. last night, martyred the Chairman of the National Reconciliation Commission of Andarab when he was engaged in offering Namaze Isha (Radio Kabul, 27 July).

Bus Over Runs Landmine in Afghanistan

Twenty-two persons were reportedly killed when a bus over ran a landmine in Afghanistan's northern province, close to Soviet border. Radio Kabul says that it is the worst incident of sabotage since the announcement of extension of unilateral ceasefire for another six months (Radio Bangladesh, 23 July).

3 Killed in Bomb Explosion in Kabul

Kabul Radio has reported that three persons died and several were seriously injured in a bomb explosion at a bazar in the Afghan capital on 18th July, 1987. Two children were among the victims. Kabul Radio condemned this new bloody crime by counter-revolutionaries, who have been resorting to every means to wreck the process of national reconciliation in Afghanistan (Radio Moscow, 19 July).

3 — NATIONALITIES POLICY

Jirgas — Holding of the First Countrywide Jirga of Nomads (Kuchis)

The first ever countrywide jirga of Afghan nomads (Kuchis) was held in Kabul on July 5, 1987. Issue pertaining to the provision of better living conditions for the nomadic tribes of the country, removing their problems as well as enlisting their cooperation in shielding the borders of the country were discussed therein. Some representative participants of the jirga in turn said: "The national reconciliation policy is the only way for maintaining peace, which is our dire need. Only in peace conditions can we have safe travels in the valleys and settle down where we want. We support this humanitarian and peaceful policy undertaken by the people's power and pledge to work with all our might for its implementation".

A solidarity message of the Awami National Party (ANP) of Pakistan, addressed to the participants of the jirga was handed over by Abdul Khaleq, the representative of the ANP to the Chairman of the jirga, Sulaiman Laeq which was accepted with thanks.

The jirga adopted messages addressed to the following:—

- a. Supreme Commission for National Reconciliation.
- b. The Central Council of the Jirga of free tribes.
- c. UN Secretary General.
- d. Robert Mogabe, Chairman of NAM.
- e. The Secretary General of OIC.
- f. The Chairman of Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO).

Setting forth the realities of Afghan Society the message urged

the heads of above organizations to strive for peace and tranquillity in Afghanistan and among UN circles and organizations to support the peace position and national reconciliation policy of the DRA for a political settlement of 'the situation around Afghanistan'. The message also requested them to persuade responsible diplomatic authorities of Pakistan and Iran to refrain from creating obstacles in the return of Afghan refugees including nomadic families. The jirga decided to establish a Central Council of Nomads to which 31 tribal elders were elected. Five others were elected as members of the executive committee of the Council (KNT, 6, 7 July).

Holding of Jirgas/Meetings by the Party and State High-ups

The process of holding jirgas and meetings of the pro-regime elders and elements for explaining the National Reconciliation and other government policies and programmes to them and ascertaining their support and cooperation was continued during the month of July 1987. The jirgas/meetings chaired and addressed by Dr. Najib, Haji Mohammad Chamkani and other high-ups of the party and state are summed up as under:—

- a. *Jirgas/Meetings Addressed by Dr. Najib*
 - (i) July 5, 1987: Meeting with the elders of nomadic tribes who had come to Kabul to participate in the first nation-wide jirga of nomads (KNT, 6 July).
 - (ii) July 5, 1987: Meeting with the elders of Kaldar district, Balkh province (KNT, 6 July).
- b. *Meetings by Haji Mohammad Chamkani*
 - (i) July 4, 1987: Meeting with the representatives of nomadic tribes who had come to attend the jirga of Nomads held in Kabul (KNT, 5 July).
 - (ii) July 8, 1987: Meeting with the representatives of Gardez Tribes of Paktia province.
Chamkani also held a meeting at the same day with the members of the Commission of NR of Khost division in Kabul (KNT, 9 July).
 - (iii) July 10, 1987: Meeting with a number of elders and chieftains of North Waziristan (KNT, 11 July).
 - (iv) July 24, 1987: Meeting with the elite and elders of Chamkani tribe Paktia province (Radio Kabul, 25 July).
- c. *Meetings by other high-ups*
 - (i) July 3, 1987: Sulaiman Laeq Minister of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs held a meeting with the participants of the first nation-wide jirga of nomads in Kabul (KNT, 4 July).

Religious — Afghan Pilgrims for Haj

The Afghan press maintained that seven thousand (7,000) Muslim countrymen would be performing Haj this year and that to help these pilgrims the government had given a total of 271.6 million Afghanis as subsidy i.e. Afghanis 38,800 to every pilgrim (KNT, 16 July and Radio Kabul, 19 July).

Returnees

During the past five months more than one thousand nine hundred seventy armed and another four thousand forty-seven unarmed men ceased living in mountains, after learning about the policy of national reconciliation and returned to their homes in Faryab province and resumed their normal life.

Since the declaration of the policy of national reconciliation, six district commissions, four country commissions and one hundred ten village commissions have been set up in Faryab province, having an overall membership of two thousand four hundred fifty-four persons (Radio Kabul, 5 July).

1200 Member Group Announces Solidarity with NR Process in Herat Province

A 1200 members armed group equipped with heavy and light arms, which had been indulged in armed activities in the suburban areas of Kushak Woleswali of Herat province from some time, announced solidarity with the national reconciliation process on July 11, 1987. This group is led by Din Mohammad Mashwanri (Radio Kabul, 12 July).

4 — ECONOMY

Agreement

On July 11 an agreement was signed between the DRA and MPR under the agreement two sides would cooperate in socio-economic, scientific, cultural and agricultural fields and would also establish joint economic institutions. Another agreement was also signed on the same day on the gratis aid of MPR to the DRA (KNT, 12 July).

Projects

A session of the permanent commission of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers of the DRA for local and foreign investment was held on 2nd July. During the session 15 new projects in the fields of metal industry, foodstuffs, footwear, carpet weaving and washing, poultry farming and provision of construction materials

were approved. These projects would be set up with an initial capital of 90 million Afghanis and maximum capital of 409 million Afghanis in the centre and provinces (KNT, July).

In the current year 50 more projects are planned to be commissioned. So far 407 projects in private sector have been registered in the capital and 106 in provinces, with a total capital of 8.7 billion Afghanis. Out of them 231 in the capital and 25 in the provinces have been commissioned (KNT, 9 July).

Kokcha river project is located in Khwaja Ghar district of Takhar province. This project is included in the joint Afghan-Soviet economic and technical cooperation for the years 1986-1990, with the completion of the project the existing irrigation of 32,000 hectares would be improved and 17,000 hectares of new land would be brought under irrigation. It will also provide irrigation to 32,000 hectares in Shir Mani desert in future (KNT, 14 July).

Construction

Construction of the civil airport of Shebergan city in Jouzjan province has been started on 5th July. It is said that this airport will be constructed on an area of 90 x 2500 metres for the domestic flights (KNT, 7 July).

The foundation stone of the Engineering Complex of the Ministry of Power was laid down on July 20. The Complex will have department of design, research and study (KNT, 21 July).

Industry

A KNT report reveals that the share of private industries in the total volume of industrial production is 50 per cent. At present there are more than 320 private industrial institutions active in the country in chemical, construction, metal, pharmaceuticals, paper, foodstuffs and other industrial productions (KNT, 13 July).

Foreign Aid

A spokesman of the State Planning Committee states that the total assistance of the Soviet Union to Afghanistan exceeds around three billion dollars before and after the revolution. Soviet Union have given 1.1 billion dollars including credits and gratis aid, since the inception of the revolution. Soviet Union is providing 73.5 per cent of the total foreign assistance to the DRA (KNT, 20 July).

Export

The Wool Export Enterprise, exported 5,000 tons of wool in

1986, and earned 10 million dollars. Out of that 1500 tons were exported by the enterprise and the rest by traders and agriculture cooperatives. The export target for current five year plan is 10,000 tons of wool. It is mainly produced in north, south and west of the country (KNT, 26 July).

Transport

Milli Bus Enterprise earned 265 million Afghanis last year with its fleet of 827 buses in Kabul and other provinces. Kabul city has the major share, a fleet of 600 buses, rolls on the Kabul city roads every day (KNT, 4 July).

Private transport is organized in 117 transport unions, operate under the private transport department and has a fleet of 7355 vehicles. In the first quarter of the current year, private transport carried 497,000 tons of goods from the ports to the capital and vice versa, which is 155,000 tons more than in the first quarter of last year. It plans to transport this year a total of 25 million tons of goods and thus achieving an increase of 678,000 tons over last year (KNT, 30 July).

Insurance

Afghan National Insurance Company implemented the plan of last year by 107 per cent, earning 118 million Afghanis. The company paid 24.5 million Afghanis to the state sector and 9.7 million Afghanis to the private sector to compensate losses (KNT, 13 July).

Cooperatives

A spokesman for the cooperatives development department said, that over 18 million Afghanis have been spent so far on the establishment of 51 model cooperatives in the country (KNT, 29 July).

In Ningarhar province during the current year, five consumer cooperatives and two handicraft cooperatives have been set up with a membership of 1758 and 27 respectively (KNT, 25 July).

Fifteen consumer cooperatives with a membership of 2300, have been recently established in Ningarhar, Qandahar, Herat, Laghman, Kunduz, Takhar, Samangan and Baghlan provinces. Two cooperatives have also been formed in Mazar-i-Sharif and Deh Dadi sub-districts of Balkh province (KNT, 2 July).

Agriculture

The irrigation canal of Lashkargah-Shamalian in Helmand province was inaugurated on 21 July. With the completion of 6 m wide and 20 km long canal an area of 1400 hectares have been newly brought

under irrigation. The main source of this canal is Helmand river (*KNT*, 22 July).

According to an agreement concluded with Soviet Union the mechanized agricultural station of Balkh province will receive this year on long term credit, 60 combines 60 tractors, 85 ploughs, 20 mobile workshops, petroleum and water tankers and 30 transport vehicles (*KNT*, 13 July).

The agency of Afghan Fertilizers and Agricultural Services Company declares that 1,410 tons of cotton seeds 3,338 tons of fertilizers have been distributed to 8,650 cotton growers of Helmand province so far this year (*KNT*, 4 July).

An artificial insemination station was commissioned in Paktia province from the state development budget. The station covers an area of 2,000 sqm and will cost 1,200,000 Afghanis (*KNT*, 4 July).

5 — EDUCATION, YOUTH AND HEALTH

Students work and construction brigades have begun their summer vacation work from June 26 which will go to till 6th of September. 7,100 students are organized to work in the fields of transport, construction, production and agricultural projects (*KNT*, 2 July).

In Faryab province 7 new primary schools have been set up recently. 450 students have been enrolled in these schools (*KNT*, 22 July).

The Institution for Blind, run by the Vocational Education Department is currently training 110 blind students. Every student receives 1500—1700 Afghanis monthly stipend, in addition to this the lunch is free (*KNT*, 28 July).

About 400 students are presently studying at Tele-Communication Training Centre (TTC) (*KNT*, 21 July).

The first batch of students of Kabul Polytechnic Institute graduated from the Institute in food technology on 8th July (*KNT*, 9 July).

170 new literacy courses have been set up by border military contingent of Herat province. About 85 volunteers are teaching 3,890 students (*KNT*, 8 July).

Sixteen literacy courses have been set up in Samangan province last month. There are now 3,262 students enrolled in 262 literacy courses, and these courses are conducted by 157 regular and volunteer teachers. 73 persons have graduated so far from these courses since the beginning of the new year (*KNT*, 28 July).

Youth

Under a protocol signed between the trade unions of the DRA and

the USSR, around 1,000 children of Afghan tailors left for the Soviet Union on 28 July for one month (*KNT*, 29 July).

300 youth of Tor Pakhto village joined armed forces voluntarily in Faryab province (*KNT*, 7 July).

6 — SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

The Hungarian People's Republic has donated 3.5 tons of goods including medicines, medical equipment, food and blankets to the state committee for repatriates (*KNT*, 11 July).

Diplomats and the staff of Polish embassy in Kabul donated Afghanis 39,000 to the repatriates fund (*KNT*, 5 July).

Action has been taken against several government employees in Parwan province. They were found guilty of corruption, misappropriation and embezzlement in the distribution of residential plots in Parwan and Charikar cities (*KNT*, 21 July).

To facilitate the working women, the charges of Kudakestan (day care centres) are very nominal. In the residential centres charges are 1500 Afghanis per year for a child and for the work place centres 2,000 Afghanis per year per child (*KNT*, 22 July).

On the basis of the joint resolution of politburo of the PDPA and the council of Ministers on revision of the salary and other privileges for the personnel of the armed forces, services have been started to supply essential goods to defence personnel and their family on 10—20 per cent low prices. The goods are also sold through mobile stores to armed forces personnel serving in the provinces (*KNT*, 22 July).

Women's provincial council has organized 1,400 women in Helmand province where the total number of women's councils is 52 and 21 literacy courses are functioning under these councils (*KNT*, 2 July).

Culture

A photo exhibition was inaugurated at the hall of state committee for culture on the National day of People's Republic of Poland. More than 155 photographs were on display highlighting the socio-economic progress of Poland during last forty years (*KNT*, 22 July).

Another photo exhibition was inaugurated on July 8 at the exhibition hall of the state committee for culture to mark the 66th anniversary of the Mongolian revolution and the national day of the MPR. In the exhibition 80 different photos on socio-economic development of Mongolia were on display (*KNT*, 12 July).

The television station of Pul-i-Kumri city in Baghlan province was commissioned on 2nd July. The station has been constructed at a cost

of 5 million Afghanis from the state budget (*KNT*, 5 July).

The music department of Radio-TV recorded more than 172 new songs in the first three months of this year, out of them 114 songs are in Dari, 27 in Pushto, 21 in Nooristani and 15 in Uzbeki. The department has also recorded 47 songs to welcome national reconciliation (*KNT*, 21 July).

Publications

During the last three months the Writers Association of the DRA has brought out 16 new books of poetry, fiction and stories (*KNT*, 23 July).

The first issue of a four page weekly 'Khost' has been published in Paktia province, which carries political and cultural news (*KNT*, 27 July).

The first issue of a 120 page bi-monthly magazine 'Party Life' has come out in the capital. This magazine is published by the PDPA CC and carries political information mainly in Dari and Pushto languages (*KNT*, 7 July).



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